



NEWS RELEASE

May 7, 2007

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MAYOR TO LEAD CYCLISTS ON RIDE THROUGH THE CITY OF GREENVILLE

Event Highlights Health and Economic Benefits of Cycling

GREENVILLE, SC - Mayor Knox White will lead the city in celebrating National Bike-to-Work Day, beginning at 7:30 a.m., Friday, May 18. The public is invited to join the mayor as he and other cyclists pedal their way from Hincapie Sportswear at 45 Pete Hollis Boulevard to Piazza Bergamo in Downtown Greenville. Cyclists who need to park and ride can take their cars to the Green Shopping Plaza at Pete Hollis Boulevard and Mulberry Street.

The two mile bike route will take riders along cycle-friendly streets and the newly opened *Rails-to-Trails* project along the Reedy River...a trail that will eventually connect with Furman University and Travelers Rest.

The 30-minute bike tour will end with free coffee and bagels at Piazza Bergamo where Mayor White will review and provide an update on all the City's bike-related initiatives at Piazza Bergamo.

The City of Greenville is making significant progress in its efforts to become a “bicycle friendly community. There are at least five reasons to consider biking to work:

- ✓ **The Environment** – Cyclists keep 3.6 pounds of automobile pollutants from entering the atmosphere with every mile they ride their bikes.
- ✓ **Health** – Bicycle riders burn an average of 25 calories per mile.
- ✓ **Time** – Biking often gets people to their destinations quicker than driving.
- ✓ **Cost Savings** - AAA reports it costs over \$5,000 per year to own and maintain a car compared to \$120 per year to own and maintain a bicycle.
- ✓ **Closer Look at Greenville** – Cyclists see Greenville from a different perspective...learning new and interesting things about their own neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods.

For more information on Bike-to-Work Day in Greenville, call Andrew Meeker at 864-467-4345 or email him at meekera@greatergreenville.com. You will also find details at www.greatergreenville.com/bike2work.